

# THE PUBLIC LEDGER

DAILY—EXCEPT SUNDAY, FOURTH OF JULY, THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS.  
A. F. CURRAN, Editor and Publisher.  
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ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS CASH IN ADVANCE.

Col. Roosevelt is coming back. "Thanks." That will give him plenty of time to blow himself out of the running for 1916.

## OUR IDLE ARMY.

There are in the United States at the present time more than 1,000,000 idle men. No, I didn't count them, but I give you the rule by which I ciphered out the number.

When the Pennsylvania Railroad system a week or so ago had 38,000 idle freight cars, it very curiously had 38,000 idle men. When the New York Central had 23,000 idle cars it had 25,000 idle men.

Railroad officials tell me that almost always the number of idle cars and idle men are about equal. Another curious thing: A freight car, when working, earns an average of \$2.50 a day. That is very close to the average sum earned by each employee of our big Eastern railroads.

At the last official report there were 240,000 idle cars in the United States, indicating a like number of idle employees. Railroad officials say that, omitting agriculture, other industries employ four times as many men as the railroads and that the average number of idle runs pretty nearly even.

So there is the army of 1,000,000 idle.—Philadelphia Ledger.

## CAUSES OF DIVORCE.

The Brooklyn Court of Domestic Relations has issued a report on the chief causes of marital trouble and family disruption. Some time ago, a similar institution in Chicago issued a like report. The causes assigned in the two reports are practically the same and every cause set down was operative in approximately the same per cent. of cases in both cities. Here are the figures from the more recent Brooklyn report:

	No.	Pct.
Drink	390	45.8
Other women	117	13.7
Jealousy	76	8.9
Laziness	79	9.2
Incompatibility	75	8.8
Gambling	33	3.8
Out of work	30	3.5
Lazy and untidy wives	20	2.3

Eight causes—or are they eight results? Is it not entirely probable that what appears in the table as a cause is in itself an effect? Is there a single cause set down that may not have been itself caused by domestic unhappiness.

Drink leads, with a number just about equal to all the others combined. But comparatively few men drink to excess out of mere love for drink. There are some natural drunkards, but it is entirely probable that a great majority of men who drink to excess begin it in an effort to drown trouble. It appears quite as probable that the men became drunkards because they were domestically unhappy as that they became domestically unhappy because they were drunkards.

"Other women" is the second largest item in the list. That, too, seems as likely to be an effect as a cause. Men are likely to become enamoured of other women because they find it impossible to remain enamoured of their wives.

And "laziness." The average man, in normal condition, would rather work than loaf. When he reaches the point of having no desire to work, there is something wrong. When a man's domestic environment is such that he becomes hopeless of realizing his hopes from his work, he may quit work.

All down the list, things called causes of domestic infelicity appear more likely to be the results of domestic infelicity. It is probably well enough to investigate the immediate causes of divorce, but, if the root of the evil is to be reached, it were well to inquire as to the mediate causes—the causes of the causes, so to say. Divorce, abstractly, is a bad thing. Concretely, if it had been practiced early enough in many of these cases, drunkenness or other vice might have been prevented.

Old Huerta should agree to resign if Bryan resigns. All would be well then.

It cost the State of New York the sum of \$225,000 to impeach Governor Sulzer. It was worth it.

Saloonkeepers and bootleggers should steer clear of Mexico. Both Federals and rebels shoot them to death as fast as they fall into their possession. Orders have gone out from the armies' headquarters not to sell liquor to the soldiers, and when a soldier is caught drunk he is required to tell where he got his booze, and this invariably leads to the arrest and execution of the liquor-seller without unnecessary form or ceremony.

## HANDS OUT A HOT ONE TO

### "CIVIL SERVICE."

"Word comes from authoritative sources that the 'civil service examinations' for postmasterships are grotesque farces, and that through the activity of 'inspectors' acting under instructions, Republican postmasters and employees are being 'fired' right and left, not only without cause but without a chance to defend themselves."

This is the sort of yelp that goes up from Republican sources, which, when the Republicans were in power was handled the same as today. The public generally is aware that civil service and politics will not mix. Even right here in Brown County there is plenty of argument, either from the way the state or national government handles this matter. The only straightforward kind of civil service to maintain is civil service for only the members of the party in power. Otherwise the ruse is properly referred to as being "snivil."—Georgetown (O.) News Democrat.

## "ALL ABOARD FOR PANAMA!"

The Kansas City Star editorially says, and the New York Evening Post approvingly quotes, the following:

"Before Uncle Sam follows Henry Watter-son's advice to annex Mexico, let it be understood: Are the Mexican States to line up and become a part of the Solid South?"

Why, bless us, this is 1914, not 1868! Reconstruction has done its worst and its best. There is no longer any "Solid South." Can it be that the patriotic horizon of two such exemplars of American Journalism as the Post-and-Rail and the Star-of-the-West has a sectional boundary and that they do not exult in the expanding greatness and glory of our common country in case the course of Empire should take a Southerly direction?

It is related that when two seoffers at the last moment repented of their folly and begged to be taken on the Ark, Noah, as he shoved away from the dock, exclaimed, more in sorrow than in anger, "Too late. No more room—every berth taken!" No such fate shall overtake our colleagues of Missouri and New York when the Courier-Journal starts on its way rejoicing to the Equator, via the Andes and Cape Horn, and the word is given, "All Aboard for Panama," and Col. William Rockhill Nelson and Mr. Oswald Garrison Villard "come a runnin' down the bluff," they shall not be treated so inhospitably. On the contrary, shoving each a plank, we shall say, "Tuck the flag about you tighter, boys, and next time don't you be so fresh!"

"Mexico must be and is going to be civilized; it is written in the book of Destiny," says the Courier-Journal; no doubt, but should we do it in twenty years and be killed for it, or let Mexico take 100 in doing it?"—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Why, neither, please your worship. We shall just go along doing our duty, leaving results to take care of themselves. The God of the Universe will do the rest.—Courier-Journal.



NOT STONE BLIND.

Proudly he placed a single diamond ring on her tapering finger.

"It's a very small diamond!" she said, and paused. Then: "And not very brilliant, either."

"Ah, sweetheart, but love is blind."

Raising her limpid eyes to his, she said:

"Yes, dear, but not stone blind!"—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Do not say to a friend, "You are growing old." Say instead, "You are becoming mature."

## SOME SPRING DAY BIRDS.

The Audubon Society of Lexington which last Sunday made a visit to the home of Mrs. W. E. Simms, which is surrounded by beautiful grounds, in the suburbs of Paris, report the following names of the birds seen: Robin, meadow lark, bluejay, bronze grackle, red-headed wood-pecker, flicker, chimney swifts, mockingbird, bluebird, pewee, great crested fly-catcher, least fly-catcher, Baltimore oriole, orchard oriole, chickadee, darbling vireo, crow, brown thrasher, catbird, ruby-throated hummingbird, indigo bunting, chipping sparrow, mourning dove, Carolina wren, little green heron, summer yellowbird, Kentucky warbler, Blackburnian warbler, myrtle warbler, black and white creeping warbler, goldfinch, pine warbler, black-throated blue warbler, yellow-breasted chat, blue winged warbler, wood thrush, summer tanager, scarlet tanager and ruby-crowned kinglet.

## FACTS ABOUT "OLD ROSEBUD" 40th KENTUCKY DERBY WINNER.

The Kentucky Derby run at Louisville, gross value \$12,575.

Value to winner, Old Rosebud, \$9,125 net.

Value to the second horse, Hodge, \$2,000.

Value to the third horse, Bronzewing, \$1,000.

Value to the fourth horse, John Gund, \$225.

Owner of winner, H. C. Applegate & Co., Louisville.

Trainer, F. D. Weir.

Jockey, J. McCabe.

Time, 2:03 2-5. (Derby and track record at Churchill Downs for the distance, one mile and a quarter.)

Winner's price in the pari-mutuel pools a shade better than 4 to 5.

Attendance, estimated at 35,000.

Jockey McCabe was given \$750.

## BEN BUTLER'S THIRD PARTY

Had Everything That T. R. Advocates But the Recall.

(Bath (Maine) Cor. New York World.)

There's a good deal of laughing in Maine today over the political address which Colonel E. C. Plummer, of this city, delivered in Gardiner last evening, wherein he showed, as one man expressed it, that Roosevelt had taken about everything Ben Butler ever had, except his unfortunate eye. Said the Colonel: "As you listen to this third-party talk do you ever stop to remember that the platform, with the exception of the recall of Judges, is the same platform that Ben Butler drew when he launched his third party in 1884? He too, had 'conservation of public lands,' 'war upon soulless corporations and monopolies,' 'bringing the Government back into the hands of the people,' 'condemnation of both the Republican and Democratic parties as controlled by corrupt wealth,' 'votes for women'—all these were there.

"Ben's party had come into existence in exactly the same way as its successor. Butler had been a candidate for the Presidency at the Chicago convention He, too, was the 'storm center' there. Old press dispatches tell us that 'wherever he appeared there was the loudest scream'—nobody ever had anything on Ben when it came to spectacularity. But the Southern delegates wouldn't support Ben any more than they would support his successor this year, so Ben denounced the convention as ruled by bosses and launched his third-party candidacy in a six-column newspaper statement of the grievances of the people in general and of himself in particular—just as the third party was launched this year.

"Get down the files of your newspapers for the campaign of 1884 and you'll have to laugh. Ben, too, had a forceful vocabulary, and he used it. He admitted that he was the Abraham Lincoln of his day, and he didn't care who knew it. He had been called by the common people to save them from the Republican and Democratic parties which he had discovered were full of bosses and corruption as soon as they refused to nominate him for the Presidency, and he proposed to make them 'stop grinding the face of honest toil.' There wasn't anything missing in the dramatic line.

"On July 8 came a press dispatch that the son of Mayor Mumford, of New Orleans, whom Butler had hanged, was going to shoot him, and Ben promptly let the people know that he was prepared to die in their service, as usual. He proved conclusively on the stump that the delegates who had nominated his successful rival, Cleveland, didn't represent the people because the people were for him and hadn't had a fair show there, and he explained that the contest was really between him and Blaine, with Blaine a mighty poor second, and yet his opponent was elected, and this third party, the birth of which Ben had declared marked the greatest epoch in the life of this nation, not only went into immediate exile but was so thoroughly forgotten that when it was reintroduced this year with a recall of Judges necktie substituted for the greenback one with which Ben had adorned it, it was welcomed as a new-born child of wisdom, and poor old Ben, who had created it and brought it to perfection, didn't even get a mention in the square deal!

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